

Message Text

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ACTION AGRE-00

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PASS AGRICULTURE ELECTRONICALLY

BONN FOR AGATTACHE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR, GE
SUBJ: MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTRY TO PRESENT
AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE

SUMMARY: FUNCTIONS NEW AGATT EXPLAINED TO FORMIN
OFFICIAL, WHO RESPONDED FAVORABLY. APPOINTMENT AT
AGMIN FOR AGATT CONFIRMED. MIN FOREIGN TRADE WILL
BE RESPONSIBLE VISIT AGRICULTURAL PLANNING AND MARKET
DEVELOPMENT TEAM. END SUMMARY.

1. CHIEF OF POLITICAL SECTION ESKIN AND AGRICULTURAL
ATTACHE LOWEN MET WITH JOACHIM ELM OF AMERICAN DESK
AT MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS ON APRIL 6. PURPOSE
OF MEETING WAS TO INTRODUCE NEW AGATT AT FOREIGN
MINISTRY, TO INQUIRE ABOUT PROGRESS OF OUTSTANDING
REQUEST FOR MEETING BETWEEN AGATT AND MINISTRY OF
AGRICULTURAL OFFICIALS, AND TO LEARN OF PROGRESS OF
PLANNING FOR MAY 9-13 VISIT OF AGRICULTURAL PLANNING
AND MARKET DEVELOPMENT TEAM.

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2. ELM WELCOMED ESKIN AND LOWEN AND EXPRESSED
INTEREST IN PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND AGATT AND OBJECTIVES
OF ASSIGNMENT. LOWEN EXPLAINED FAS ALREADY HAD
ATTACHES IN OVER 60 COUNTRIES AND THAT THESE INCLUDED
A NUMBER OF SOCIALIST COUNTRIES, WHICH WERE ENUMERATED.
HE CONTINUED BY POINTING OUT THE OBJECTIVES OF FAS

IN DEVELOPING COOPERATION IN AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS IN GENERAL AND IN AGRICULTURAL TRADE IN PARTICULAR AND IN REPORTING ON AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

3. TURNING SPECIFICALLY TO GDR, AGATT INDICATED THAT A PRIMARY OBJECTIVE WOULD BE TO INCREASE EXTENT OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION BETWEEN GDR AND U.S. THIS COOPERATION COULD TAKE FORM OF EXCHANGE OF ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION ON AGRICULTURE, VISITS OF U.S. DELEGATIONS TO GDR AND RECIPROCAL VISITS OF GDR AGRICULTURAL DELEGATIONS TO UNITED STATES, AND ALSO WOULD INCLUDE STUDY OF THE AGRICULTURAL SITUATION IN GDR. AGATT NOTED THAT, GENERALLY SPEAKING, VERY LITTLE WAS KNOWN IN THE U.S. ABOUT GDR AGRICULTURE AND THAT HE HOPED THAT THIS SITUATION COULD BE CORRECTED. AS AN EXAMPLE OF TYPE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION PUBLISHED IN U.S. AS A RESULT OF ATTACHE REPORTS, HE PRESENTED THREE COPIES OF ISSUES OF FOREIGN AGRICULTURE MAGAZINE WHICH CONTAINED SEVERAL ARTICLES ON EASTERN EUROPEAN AGRICULTURE. POL OFF COMMENTED THAT AGRICULTURE COULD BE A PROMISING AREA FOR DEVELOPING BETTER UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GDR AND U.S., AND RESULTS COULD BE MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL TO BOTH PARTIES. AGATT ADDED THAT LOTHAR STRAGIES, COMMERCIAL ATTACHE OF THE GDR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, WAS VERY PLEASED BY EXTENT OF COOPERATION HE HAD ENCOUNTERED IN USDA AND WE HOPED THAT RECIPROCAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SITUATION WOULD PREVAIL IN GDR.

4. ELM INQUIRED AS TO WHETHER THE UNITED STATES PLANNED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LEIPZIG FAIR AFTER AGATT HAD MENTIONED THAT HE HAD RECEIVED GOOD RECEPTION DURING RECENT VISIT. LOWEN RESPONDED THAT IT WAS DOUBTFUL THAT USDA WOULD SEEK FULL PARTICIPATION IN NEAR FUTURE BUT THAT IT MIGHT SEEK TO COOPERATE JOINTLY WITH OTHER U.S. AGENCIES IN LEIPZIG FAIR. IT WAS ALSO POSSIBLE, HE ADDED, THAT UNITED STATES WOULD UNDERTAKE SOME FORM OF PARTICIPATION IN MONTH-LONG JUNE AGRA EXHIBITION AND TRAINING FAIR AND THAT SUCH PARTICIPATION WOULD PERHAPS TAKE FORM OF A SEMINAR.

5. THE QUESTION OF CONTACTS IN GDR THEN AROSE. ELM ALLUDED IN VAGUE MANNER TO UTILITY OF MAINTAINING CONTACT WITH THE VARIOUS TRADE ENTITIES. AGATT AGREED THAT CONTACTS WITH NAHRUNG, FRUCHTIMEX AND GENUSSMITTEL AS WELL AS THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE WERE VERY USEFUL AND NECESSARY, BUT THAT DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND WITH EXPERTS IN THE VARIOUS COMMODITY AREAS WAS NECESSARY FOR USEFUL WORKING

RELATIONSHIPS. ELM WAS NONCOMMITAL. WHEN ASKED ABOUT PROGRESS OF REQUEST FOR AN APPOINTMENT AT MINAG, ELM REPLIED THAT THIS WOULD BE ARRANGED SHORTLY.

6. RESPONDING TO DISCUSSION OF MUTUAL ADVANTAGE OF LEARNING MORE OF GDR AGRICULTURE, ELM REFERRED TO CURRENT WEEK-LONG TOUR IN GDR OF AMBASSADOR TO INDUSTRIAL PLANTS AND OTHER SITES AS EXAMPLE OF GOOD COOPERATION. ESKIN AND LOWEN AGREED.

7. THE FINAL SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION WAS PLANNING FOR

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PROGRAM OF AGRICULTURAL PLANNING AND MARKET DEVELOPMENT TEAM WHICH WILL BE IN GDR FROM MAY 9 THROUGH 13. ELM SAID HE WAS AWARE OF VISIT OF TEAM, THAT MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SCHEDULE PLANNING RESTED WITH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE, AND THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THAT WE HAD A MEETING ON THIS SUBJECT SCHEDULED WITH DR. SCHMIED ON APRIL 11. AGATT VERIFIED DATE AND ELM ADDED THAT A SCHEDULE WAS BEING PREPARED. AGATT SAID THAT HE APPRECIATED THIS BUT HOPED THAT SOME FLEXIBILITY EXISTED SINCE HE HAD NOT YET HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS IN DETAIL WITH GDR PRECISE AIMS OF VISITING TEAM. ELM OPINED THAT SUCH FLEXIBILITY WOULD EXIST.

8. SUBSEQUENT TO MEETING PROTOCOL SECTION OF FOREIGN MINISTRY REPORTED MEETING ARRANGED AT MINAG WITH ALFRED WIEGELMANN, CHIEF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION SECTION, FOR EARLY WEEK APRIL 10; ALSO, THAT GUENTHER FRIEDRICH OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE IN CHARGE OF ARRANGEMENTS AGRICULTURAL PLANNING AND MARKET DEVELOP-

MENT GROUP. BOLEN

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